

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. I.

VICTORIA, V. I., SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1859.

NO. 8.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

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By A. DE COSMOS.

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TERMS—CASH.

**JOB
 PRINTING,**
 OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
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 OFFICE OF THE

BRITISH COLONIST,

WHARF STREET, VICTORIA.

TERMS—CASH, INVARIABLY.

A. DE COSMOS, Proprietor.

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

A. DE COSMOS, Editor.

SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1859.

In every government there is a supreme and absolute power whose function is to make laws. In this colony that power is vested in the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly. These three constitute the Legislature of the colony. Our Legislature is a miniature of the Imperial Parliament: the Governor represents the Monarch; the Legislative Council is our House of Lords, and the House of Assembly our House of Commons.

The Governor is appointed by the Crown, the colony having no voice in his appointment. In his character of Legislator he has power to approve or reject: this veto power is unlimited. In that respect it differs from the veto power possessed by the President of the United States, and the Governors of the States of the American Union. There the veto power is limited,—a two-third vote of Congress will overrule the veto of the President, and the same rule holds good as regards State Legislatures.

The Legislative Council is formed by the Governor appointing the members; but the appointment must be confirmed by the Crown. The Council cannot, it is said, exceed seven in number, except with the consent of Her Majesty. It was organized with four members; two have since resigned, and one has lately been appointed. Their is nothing in our constitution limiting their term of office; consequently they are virtually members for life. The Council can originate any bill; except a money bill.

The House of Assembly, under our Constitution, is wholly a representative body. The members must be elected by the people: no one can constitutionally hold a seat there except by election. The House can originate any bill; but it is the distinctive and peculiar right of the Assembly to originate all money bills. There being no law limiting the duration of the House, it cannot be dissolved ex-

cept by passing an act, with the consent of the two other branches, or by the Governor, in virtue of his prerogative, declaring it dissolved, which he may do at any time. He has also the power to order a new election.

In order for a bill to become law, it must receive the assent of each branch of the Legislature. The assent of one or two out of the three branches, is not sufficient to make a law binding on the people. To this, however, there is an anomalous exception in the privilege which each House possesses of making laws, etc., for their own government.

The manner of creating the Council here differs from the mode adopted in Canada. There the Legislative Council is elected directly by the people, and hold their seats longer than the members of the Assembly. By holding office for a longer period than the Lower House, their position is considered more, or sufficiently, conservative to act as a wholesome check to innovation. The way of forming the Council here has been the general practice of the colonies; but the system is about exploded. Because in other colonies the Council has been proved to be of no value as a check to ultra-measures, when the Executive could increase the number of the Council either to pass or reject a measure. If our Council was made elective, it would be found an excellent improvement; and its independence would be better secured. The practice of the Council to debate with closed doors is very objectionable,—and should be immediately altered so as to conform to the universal practice in other colonies. The tendency of open parliamentary debates is not only a gratification to the people, but it enables them to watch more closely the progress of public affairs,—and is consequently a safeguard of their rights.

In organizing new and free colonies the people have an unquestioned right to demand of their sovereign the same constitutional privileges which they enjoyed in Great Britain. At common law there is no necessity for an act of Parliament to create a free colony, though the Colonial Secretary did—without precedent—introduce as a novelty into Parliament a bill for a Constitution of British Columbia. But notwithstanding the powers that be represented an arbitrary form of government as best for that colony, the same as for a convict colony, yet the Imperial Parliament did not dare to enact a Constitution for British Columbia without having guaranteed in the Constitution the three ordinary branches of the Legislature: Governor, Council, and Assembly. For laws made in a free British colony without a representative Assembly elected by the people, are null and void, and not binding on the people. And no lawyer, conversant with constitutional history, would ever give an opinion to the contrary. No power—neither monarch or governor—can alter the Constitution of the Assembly. To appoint a person to a seat in the Assembly is so well known to be unconstitutional that we doubt if it ever was done, except on Vancouver's Island. The Commons dare not by resolution appoint a member. The whole Parliament of Great Britain dare not attempt such a violation of the Constitution, as it would shake the nation from centre to circumference. Here Gov. Douglas has done what

the Supreme Executive and Legislative authority of the nation dare not do,—and the Assembly tacitly consent to it.

Correspondence of the British Colonist.

FORT HOPE, B. C., Jan. 8, 1859.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST: The advent of your paper has been hailed with enthusiasm by the colonists in this vicinity. We are gratified by seeing that the people of this colony have found an organ to lay their grievances before the world, in an independent journal, which fears not "To beard the Lion in his den, the Douglas in his hall;" which, by boldly exposing the sins of omission and commission of our rulers, will, we trust, rouse the popular sentiment to such a pitch of indignation as to procure us, if not from their reluctant hands, at least from the justice of the Imperial government, a redress of our manifold wrongs.

We have long felt that our progress has been retarded, first, by the arbitrary and illegal exactions and restrictions of a trading monopoly; and next, by the dilatory course pursued by an incompetent Governor, whose errors we were, however, willing to overlook, believing that a little experience would teach him the wants of the colony; but this illusion has vanished—the scales have fallen from our eyes, and we are convinced that there is no hope of justice from his hands. His recent enactments whether dictated by perverse stupidity or malignant hostility to the interests of this colony, have filled the cup of oppression to the brim. We are heavily taxed in the shape of trading licenses and duties; and certainly our Executive has shown some ingenuity in the imposition of the latter, fearing doubtless that prostrated as we have been by bad government, we should consume few luxuries, he has resorted to the most odious of all imposts, a tax upon our daily food, heedless alike of the progressive spirit of the nineteenth century, and the policy of our home government: truly we have asked for bread and he has given us a stone. And what benefit, let me ask, do we obtain in return for these exactions? The satisfaction of seeing the town of Victoria, and the colony of Vancouver's Island, built up at the expense of British Columbia! Is this impartial justice? Is this the way to foster the progress of a new colony? Our officials, resident beyond our limits, spend their incomes in another colony; which thus derives the benefit of their salaries, paid out of our funds; true, we are consoled by the information that we possess no convenient place at which an officer can be stationed to collect our revenue! but convenient places have been found where subordinate officers are stationed to inspect anomalous permits granted beyond our borders, thus needlessly multiplying our official staff, and consequent expenses. A convenient place has also been found to lay off a large city, in which some 70,000 dollars has been invested in real estate by eager purchasers, who are subsequently made acquainted with the astounding fact, that there is no convenient place for a Port of Entry in the colony. The words of wisdom tell us that "there is nothing new under the sun," but the words of our modern Solomon—Gov. Douglas—lead us to believe that holy

writ for once was in error. What a sublime idea of our resources the intending immigrant will form on perusing our Autocrat's late edict! He has foolishly imagined that this was an extensive country, possessing inexhaustible gold fields, fertile valleys, and a majestic river, contributing to the ocean a volume of water equal to that of the Missouri; he has contemplated moving hither with his family and his household gods, and building his permanent homestead in the far north-west; when his fancy's dream is rudely checked by an official proclamation (which must needs be true) telling him that there is not even a convenient place in the colony to build a custom house. We have no wish to injure the colony of Vancouver's Island, but we must protest against being compelled to bear it on our shoulders, like Sinbad and the old man of the sea. We demand the privilege of importing our own goods direct, without being subjected to heavy charges for lighterage, wharfage, storage, and reshipping, at the free port of Victoria, besides extra fire and sea risk and double freight. We are daily robbed of thousands by this unjustifiable act of tyranny, being compelled either to buy our supplies in Victoria, or to have agents there to attend to our interests, thus virtually losing our inalienable right of buying in the cheapest market.

There is another subject, and a most important one, the imperative necessity of opening good roads through the colony. Spring is now close upon us, and with it we look for a large immigration; and it is the bounden duty of government not to lose an hour in commencing this needful work, through which alone the resources of the country can be developed. We read a great deal it is true about the Lillooet trail and its prospective advantages, and certainly from all accounts it has cost the colony enough to justify us in hoping that it is all that is claimed; but even if it is, we require more roads, and none more imperatively than that from this point—the head of steam navigation—to the Forks via Fort Yale, every mile of which would traverse a rich mining region, which can never derive any benefit from the Lillooet road. A good wagon road to Fort Yale, and a mule trail thence equal to the best in California, and which can be kept open at all seasons, can be made at a moderate expense; and I venture to say, that had a moiety of the amount squandered on the Lillooet route been appropriated for this purpose, we should now have a good practicable road for packing, and thousands who were driven from their claims by impending starvation, would have remained during the winter, and by their labor contributed to the prosperity of the colony. During the past season individual enterprise has done much towards improving this trail, cut offs have been discovered which have shortened it some 20 miles; and even in its present condition mules have crossed some two months after it had been closed by snow according to the published letters of newspaper correspondents from the Upper Fraser, who had probably never been in its vicinity.

I trust that the government will take this matter in hand in the right way, not by sending an army of commissaries and sub-commissaries, and clerks, and supernumeraries, but by giving contracts

fer sections to the lowest bidders, and there will be no scarcity of competent contractors who will guarantee to have a good and permanent road finished before first May, which will be both a credit and an incalculable benefit to the colony.

I would also draw attention to the necessity for a military or police force on this river, for the protection of life and property. The civil authorities have at present no adequate power at their control to enforce the laws which have been set at defiance again and again by desperadoes, who still go unpunished, and threaten peaceful citizens with vengeance if they interfere to check their lawless career.

I as well as most of the pioneers who have made this colony their home, and risked the hardships and inconveniences of an inclement winter, feel confident that 1859 is destined to see ere its close gigantic strides in our progress. We are willing to do our share in the great work, and all we ask is that the government will give us that assistance to which in common justice we are entitled. Let the public lands be thrown into market at a low rate, good roads be built, and immigration fostered by wise legislation, and naught can stay our onward progress; but if we are to be still shackled and clogged with a repetition of the imbecile and detrimental rule we have suffered; as the winter's frosts, when protracted into spring, will check incipient vegetation, so must our advancement be retarded. Time alone can eradicate the wounds inflicted in infancy, and it may take years to accomplish what otherwise a single twelvemonth would see effected.

Your ob't servant,

COQUEHALLA.

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1859.

In the spring Vancouver's Island will be liberated from its thralldom to the H. B. Co. Then we will be asked by the Imperial Government to provide means to support our Civil List and incidental expenses,—and make those public improvements essential to the prosperity of the country. We will be told that the Home Government will do all in its power to promote our interests in order to build up a loyal colony; but that the policy of England is to make every colony self-supporting, and not a tax on the Imperial Treasury,—and it is presumed that Vancouver's Island will not be an exception. England will express her readiness to protect our persons and property both at home and abroad, by her army and navy, without cost to the country; beyond that the colony cannot be an expense to the mother country. Taking for granted—according to standing orders relative to other colonies—that she will pursue this course with us, we ask if the colony is prepared for the crisis? Considering the quiet way in which things are moving, and the want of consideration which is given to the subject, we fear that our freedom and our responsibilities will be announced together, only to find ourselves unprepared for the enjoyment of the one, because unable to bear the burdens of the other. Our Assembly are as ignorant of the real situation of the country relatively to the H. B. Co. and England as babes unborn. Neither have they made any effort to dis-

perse the Egyptian gloom which over-spreads their minds on this subject. Rulers and people are alike: to them the rights or position of the colony now or on the expiration of the H. B. Co's charter, is a sealed book,—and no one attempts to break the seal. On a future occasion we shall try to throw some light on the political relations and rights of the colony; but at present shall confine ourselves to some considerations relative to our position, which we believe will tend, if adopted, to lighten in the future the burdens of the people, and enable us to rise from the position of a petty colony to that of one of a superior class with all the prerogatives of virtual independence.

We propose a political union of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island. We advocate one colony and one staff of colonial officers, instead of two colonies and two staffs of colonial officers. We hold that a union will give us and British Columbia a cheaper government; that a separate colonial existence from British Columbia will entail on us a greater expense than our revenue will defray, and that our trade with British Columbia will not be hampered with duties and Custom House restrictions which tend to lessen the advantages of Victoria and the colony.

At present our farmers have no greater advantages than their neighbors in Oregon and Washington Territory. By union they would have greater, and if duties must be imposed to support the government, a bounty would be offered to engage in farming which would tend materially to the benefit of our farmers, and consequently to advancement of the colony. Again, according to the general belief Victoria—from its geographical position and the reported difficulties in the way of Gulf and river navigation—will be the principal depot of commerce for both Colonies; now if duties are imposed on merchandise coming in here for the support of the colony, our only relief is in bonded warehouses, in which our merchandise can be stored till we are ready to pay the duties and take it out for consumption or exportation. This being the case we could only be exposed to double restrictions by remaining separate. Objection possibly may be made to the imposition of duties, and many advocates be found in favor of keeping Victoria for ever a free port. For our part we can see no possible chance to keep this port free of duties,—except we adopt direct taxation to support the government. This we believe to be the most enlightened mode of deriving revenue; but hitherto the great difficulty here has been to convince the people of the necessity of it even for local improvements, few in number; and we may well ask what will they say when required to support a heavy Civil List in addition? Experience has proven that every body dislikes the Tax Collector; whilst the Custom House officer is a perfect gentleman. Hence we doubt very much the practicability of direct taxation, except for county purposes. If the supporters of a free port will show us that the people are willing to support the government by direct taxation, we will be satisfied to assist in carrying it out.

But if this colony can support itself by direct taxation, so can British Columbia. The consequence is we gain no advantage over British Columbia in that point of view; but are convinced that our dependence for making Victoria the principal depot of trade lies not in a free port; but in our geographical position and superior natural advantages. This being so, we must inquire what pecuniary advantages we will gain by union?

Whether we have union or not public improvements will have to be made; but by union we would save four-fifths of the expense entailed on the colony by a staff of colonial officers,—and British Columbia would save one-fifth of her Civil List. The difference in the savings to the colonies will lie in proportion principally to their difference in population. British Columbia holding out greater inducements to gold seekers than we enjoy, will very naturally have a larger population. When we have 20,000 permanent population, British Columbia will have 80,000. This proportion will hold good for years to come. The only means at our command to act as a set off to her population will be in our larger amount of merchandise, which will not make for some time a very appreciable difference between the revenues of the colonies. Space will not permit us to enter more into details; but we ask the people if they are willing to support a similar Civil List to British Columbia, with a fifth of the population? Can we do it? We have no hesitation in saying that we can not support out of our revenue a similar Civil List, and pay such salaries as the Imperial government will expect us to give, in order to maintain the dignity and position of our officers. England not being willing to have a tax on her treasury, what else can we do but unite the two colonies? In fact she has told us already in the Constitution of British Columbia, that she is willing for us to form a union. This is significant of her opinion of our capacity for a separate colonial existence.

SCHOOL LANDS.—The address to His Excellency the Governor, to reserve 100 acres of the best land in each district for educational purposes meets the entire approval of the public. The only objection to the appropiation is that it is far too small. If Gov. Douglas would reserve 1000 acres in each district, it would meet the hearty approbation of every well-wisher to education, and be a wise and noble bounty to the rising generation. The land should all be taken in one reserve; but distributed through the district if possible. The management of the reserves need not cause any great degree of trouble, if proper system is adopted. Hereafter if the Legislature should deem it best to sell the reserves, and fund the proceeds, a large sum would be provided for the support of Schools without making them burdensome on the public. Now is the time to lay a sure foundation for a sound educational system; and no cheaper or better mode can be suggested than reserving portions of the public lands.

H. M. S. Plumper arrived yesterday afternoon from British Columbia, bringing Lieut. Gov. Moody.

APPENDED will be found a communication from His Excellency Lieut. Gov. Moody, in which he states that we were in error in attributing to him the immediate supervision of British Columbia. We take pleasure in making the correction in order to set Lieut. Gov. Moody right before the people; and also because it settles a point which has called out considerable discussion: the public believing—since the inauguration of Lieut. Gov. Moody—that Gov. Douglas merely held an honorary position relative to British Columbia. We founded our remark on the custom of Lieut. Governors to hold the immediate supervision of their Provinces under the direct orders of the Home Government. In addition, we could not interpret the seventh article of the Constitution of British Columbia, other than that Lieut. Gov. Moody, was bona fide Governor; and this is in strict conformity to the practice of the Lieut. Governors of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, etc. The Governor-General of Canada not exercising any authority over them in the purely local affairs of each Province.

VICTORIA, 28th Jan., 1859.

Sir.—An article in your paper of the 15th inst. (Ditches and Quartz) commences with the following sentences:

"As the immediate supervision of British Columbia now devolves on Lt. Governor Moody, we hope to hear that among his first acts will be," etc.

It is possible the above might lead to misunderstanding, and I therefore take the earliest opportunity of requesting you will do me the favor greatly to qualify it.

I serve under His Excellency Governor Douglas, receive his instructions, and carry out his orders in all matters relating to British Columbia.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. C. MOODY,
Col. Com. and Lt. Gov.

THE APPOINTEE.—The Assembly has again met and adjourned without saying a solitary word about the violation of the Constitution of the colony, by allowing the hon. appointee for Nanaimo to hold his seat. If this matter is not investigated it will in the future tell against the present members in a shape that they will always regret. A committee should be appointed at once to investigate the matter. If not, the House will have to act on a petition for the purpose. It is the general opinion that hon. members want the matter to sleep along, and by-and-by the House will be dissolved, and thus it will end; but in this they will make a very serious mistake,—for the people will never forget the principal and subordinate actors in this outrage against popular institutions,—except a disposition is shown to correct the evil.

MILL CREEK BRIDGE, ESQUIMALT.—The approaches to this bridge are said to be so steep, that it is dangerous. From the complaints which have reached us from that vicinity, we judge something should be done immediately in the way of improvement.

THE steamer Otter, Mouatt, sailed yesterday for Nisqually, for cattle and sheep for the Puget Sound Agricultural Company.

PUBLIC CONTRACTS.—The custom has obtained here, of giving out contracts not strictly to the lowest tender, but according to the discretion or caprice of the authorities. We understand that this mode was adopted lately as regards street contracts, the lowest tender not getting it; and the contract for a bridge across the gully at Government street was made without asking the public for tenders. This system is not open and fair enough. It does not suit the public. The people pay the bills, and they want the work thrown open in future to competition, to whoever will do the work cheapest. A very considerable saving might have been made in town improvements had this mode been adopted. If the government has doubts of the contractor's ability to perform the work, it should exact securities,—and the parties acting as security should justify in double the amount. No patchwork contracts should be given out; the whole job should be given at once, and not make two bites of a cherry.

CANADA.—Hon. Robert Baldwin, C. B., died Dec. 8. He had occupied some of the most distinguished positions which his country could confer on him. He was one of a rare class—an honest politician, whose unsullied integrity was never questioned by the bitterest opponent.

Silver coin, under the Decimal currency of Canada, are twenty, ten and five cent pieces. The cent is copper. The first instalment was brought out from England by the Hon. Mr. Ross. Another instalment is expected, when they will be put in circulation.

The appointment of the Rev. George Hill, Bishop of British Columbia, is said by the *Cobourg Star*, to be adverse to the interests of the Church of England, and a correspondent of the *Record* says the "services and sermons" which he lately heard in Mr. Hill's church "were alike tinged," not with the colors of the Church of England but of Rome.

The Wesleyan Conference voted 300 pounds to support four Missionaries to British Columbia. The Rev. E. Robson said: That Col. Moody, who had received the offer of Commissioner of Works, in reply to an offer from the British Government of as many soldiers as he judged necessary to keep the peace, observed that he only wished as many as were necessary to carry on the contemplated work of road making, etc., that for other purposes the best soldiers were Christian Missionaries.

Elections for members of the Legislative Council had taken place. It was not known how it turned out, whether a Ministerial or Anti-Ministerial majority. The brig *Prince Edward*, had left Charlotte, P. E. I., for New Zealand with 94 passengers. Many of them wealthy.

NOVA SCOTIA.—A public meeting was held in Halifax, Dec. 8, at which the most distinguished personages of the city were present. The Mayor presided. Its object was to give Lord Bury an opportunity to express publicly the object of his mission. It appears his lordship was sent out by a Company, and not by the government, to take measures for the construction of the Halifax and Quebec

railroad. The meeting were unanimous for the railroad.

Chief Justice Halburton is in his 85th year; has sat 32 years on the bench; and is supposed to be oldest Judge in Her Majesty's dominions.

The mission of the B. N. American Delegates to England is said to be a failure, owing to not having matured a plan for railroad improvements before starting to submit to Her Majesty's government.

The Masonic fraternity of Halifax celebrated the anniversary of St. Andrew by a public dinner, at which Hon. A. Keith Grand Master, presided, supported on the right by the Earl of Melgrove, Gen. Trollop, and Capt. Hay, R. N.; on the left by Vice-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart and Lieut. Col. Bathurst.

LATE arrivals from Fraser river state that the miners were leaving Yale with provisions, etc., for Beston Bar, where first rate diggings were struck. McGowan had been fined 25 dollars, and not imprisoned as reported. Very favorable reports have come down from Bridge river.

THE Steamer *Gov. Douglas*, Capt. Murray, left on Thursday morning for Langley, with 60 passengers and 110 tons of freight. This is her first trip. May success attend Victoria's first sea-going steamer; and many more follow in her wake.

His Excellency Gov. Douglas has been made a Companion of the Bath. According to Tittler's Law Dictionary, the rank in England of a C. B. is next to a Baronet.

RECENT reports from British Columbia state that Gov. Moody has been well received by the people, and has rendered himself deservedly popular.

Mr. C. Leroy informs us that a party of four Frenchmen, who left here for Fraser river a couple of days since in a whaleboat painted blue, are supposed to have been murdered by the Indians, as a canoe containing 15 redskins was met yesterday crossing the Gulf, having such a boat in tow, loaded.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

THE Members of the VICTORIA PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY are requested to meet this Saturday Evening, Jan. 29, at the House of Messrs. S. Franklin and Co., Yates street, at 7 1-2 o'clock, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, and other important matters. By order of the President J. SILVERSMITH, Sec. pro tem.

SALE BY AUCTION.

SELM FRANKLIN AND CO., Auctioneers and Land Agents, Yates street, will sell by Auction, THIS DAY, Saturday Jan. 29, at 12 o'clock, a BILLIARD TABLE, GROCERIES, and other merchandise.

HOSIERY AND GENTS FURNISHING GOODS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
N. MOORE & CO.

HAVING opened their new store on Yates street, for the sale of the above goods, would respectfully call the attention of the public to their stock of the same. It shall be their constant aim to keep a complete assortment of Hosiery for

LADIES AND CHILDREN,

And also of Gents Furnishing Goods, in all their variety. Having for some time past endeavoured to do an exclusive wholesale trade, and finding the retail trade so worked in with it, we have now made arrangements to accommodate both branches, and shall in future endeavour to manage them so as to merit public approval at the New store on Yates street, Victoria.
N. MOORE & CO.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, V. I.

ARRIVALS

Jan. 24.—Barque *Madonna*, Hoes, Port Townsend; sloop J. S. Caswell, Taylor, Port Townsend; Jan. 25.—Leonede, Allen, Port Townsend; schr. Mary Ann, Tucker, Port Townsend. Jan. 26.—Island Queen, Robertson, Fort Langley. Jan. 27.—Amelia, Thornton, Port Townsend; Wild Pigeon, Saunders, Port Townsend; Pronto, Roder, Port Townsend; Matilda, Morgan, Port Townsend; H. M. S. Plumper, British Columbia.

CLEARANCES.

Jan. 24.—Wild Duck, Ross, Port Townsend. Jan. 25.—sloop Leonede, Allen, Port Townsend. Jan. 26.—Nanaimo Packet, Walker, Nanaimo; str. Governor Douglas, Murray, Langley. str. Otter, Mouat, Port Townsend; sloop J. C. Caswell, Taylor, Pt To's'nd.

VICTORIA WHOLESALE PRICE CURRENT

Corrected Weekly.—Jan. 29.

Apples, dried, per lb.	13	a	15
Barley, "	3	d	
Bran, per ton	40	d	45
Bacon, Extra Clear, per lb.	17	a	18
Beans, "	8	a	1-2
Butter, "	47	a	50
Blankets, per pair,	4	a	11
Beef, mess, per lb.	8	a	10
Bread, pilot,	10	a	12
Crockery, 50 per cent below cost.			
Coffee, Rio, per lb.	16	a	17
Coffee, Java, "	19	a	
Cheese, "	35	a	45
Candles, "	30	a	32-1-2
Crackers, soda, "	13	a	14
Flour, best brands,	11	60	13 60
Gunny Bags, "	18	a	25
Hay, "	3	a	
Hams, "	26	a	28
Lard, in 10 lb. cans,	19	a	21
Lumber, according to quality,	18	a	22
Mackerel, per ket.	4	a	5
Nails, pur lb.	7		
Oats, "	3	a	1-2
Onions, "	2	a	3
Pork, extra clear, 1-2 bbls.	18	a	20
Pork, mess, in "	17		
Peas, split,	6	a	7
Potatoes, "	1	a	2
Quicksilver, "	90	a	100
Rice, Carolina, "	5	a	
Rice, China No. 1, fair,	6	a	7
Sugar, crushed, "	17	a	
" China No. 1, fair, "	12	a	
" New Orleans, fair, "	13	a	13-1-2
" San Francisco refined, "	13	a	1-2
Syrups, East Boston and S. F. refinery, 90	1	a	
Sheetings and Drillings, "	13	a	14
Shirts, drawers and grey under, per doz.	10	50	11 50
Over shirts, per doz.	18	a	21
Teas, green, accord. to quality,	30	a	55
Teas, black, accord. to quality,	50	a	40
Yeast Powders, per doz.	2	a	3

NOTICE.

THE undersigned having leased from Dr. George Johnston for a term of years, that property fronting on Government, Yates and Broad street, known as Johnston's Block, are now ready to grant leases of the same on liberal terms. Apply to
V. MORIN FOUCAULT, Treasurer,
or at THOS. PHELAN'S Store on the premises.
PAUL MEDANA,
V. MORIN FOUCAULT,
THOS. PHELAN.

GOLD PENS AND FINE CUTLERY, at
HIBBEN AND CO'S
Express Bookstore, Yates street.

CURTIS AND CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

DRUGGISTS,

YATES STREET, VICTORIA, V. I.

Importers of

Finest quality Drugs, Chemicals, Toilet articles, Perfumery, Swedish Leeches etc.

Agents for all the popular Patent Medicines.

Also, dealers in Camphene, Alcohol, and Burning Fluid. d23

REMOVAL.

JONATHAN PEEL AND CO., Dealers in Groceries and Provisions, have removed to Wharf street, between Yates and Johnson sts, next door to J. C. George and Co. j22-31

REMOVAL.

HUNTOON AND CO. have removed to Wharf street opposite Yates street. j1a

T. PHELAN,

CORNER of Yates and Government streets, offers for sale

Barrels and half barrels Extra Clear Pork; 50 lb. sacks Chile Beans; Quarter sacks Olympia Flour; Hillings' sugar cured Hams; Half barrels New Orleans Sugar; Extra Clear Bacon; Rio Coffee; Barrels and half barrels Sand-vich Island Molasses and syrup; Half barrels Boston Crushed sugar; Black and Green Teas; and a general assortment of Crockery and Glassware. jan22

TEXAS STORE

COMMISSION HOUSE.

Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps and Hosiery.

HAVING opened a store for the sale of Goods entirely on Commission, the undersigned respectfully solicits consignments in his line of business. He promises strict attention to the interests of his consignees. Remnants of stock received and disposed of to advantage. HENRY M. O'FIN. Yates street. jan22-6t

W. F. HERRE,

Book and News Depot,

YATES, NEAR WHARF STREET,

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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Met Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1859.

Present—Hon. Speaker Helmcken, Pemberton, Yates, Skinner, Dr. Kennedy and McKay, Esqrs.

The record of last meeting was read and approved.

The Speaker—The business of the day before the House, is the notice of a motion for an address to His Excellency, praying him to reserve lands for school and other purposes; also the Decimal Currency bill.

Mr. Pemberton—I have a petition from Alex. C. Anderson, asking the House to pass an act to incorporate the Victoria Navigation Company, which I will read with permission of the House.

Leave granted, and petition referred to Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Yates—I move "that application be made to His Excellency the Governor, for information whether the government can remove the Indians, by purchase, from the Indian reserve, Victoria harbour; and if the government has not the power, His Excellency will please inform the House wherein it is powerless."

Mr. McKay—The Solicitor General has already given the information by warning parties who have hired a portion of the reserve to quit.

The motion passed.

Mr. Skinner—I move that the bill "to quiet titles," be read a first time.

Mr. McKay—I second it.

Motion passed, and bill read first time.

Mr. McKay—I move that an address be presented to His Excellency Gov. Douglas, asking to reserve 400 acres of land in each of the districts of Seake, Esquimalt, Cowichan, and Metchosin, for educational purposes; also, 400 acres in each district for other purposes; and that the best land be chosen.

Mr. Pemberton—I object to any land being appropriated for School purposes, —or for the Church. What reservations had been made were found to make more trouble than they were worth. In Canada they were the source of universal discontent, till they were broken up by the government. I am opposed to the motion entirely.

Hon. Speaker—If the reservation for Victoria School had been kept, it would have been to-day a good source from which to provide revenue to support the School. I think this a very necessary measure.

Messrs. McKay and Skinner were in favor of the motion.

Mr. Pemberton—The 700 acres at Nanaimo were useless; and in support of which he said he would refer to the hon. member for Nanaimo. I ask the House to permit me to record my protest against the motion.

The motion passed.

Mr. Skinner—I move that the bill entitled "An Act to grant Inns and Beer Houses semi-annual licenses," be read a second time.

Mr. Yates seconded it.

Dr. Kennedy—I move in amendment that "quarterly" be substituted for "half yearly."

Mr. Yates—I would enquire, Mr. Speaker, if the Council of this colony is a Privy or Legislative Council? From their manner of debating with closed doors, I think it is a Privy Council.

Mr. Pemberton—I do not think it a Legislative Council. It should be known as the Council, and this House as the Legislative Assembly.

Hon. Speaker—It is a Legislative Council; but as that is not the question before the House, I must rule this discourse relative to Legislative Council out of order.

Dr. Kennedy's amendment not being seconded, the motion passed.

Mr. Pemberton—I move the second reading of "the Decimal Currency Bill."

There are many objections to the bill in its present form, and some alterations I consider necessary.

Mr. Skinner—I second it.

Mr. McKay—I move in amendment "an act to constitute the coinage of the U. S. of America a legal tender;" also, in the shape of a rider, that His Excellency Gov. Douglas, ask the Home Government to establish a mint in this colony.

Mr. Pemberton—I withdraw my bill. The amendment passed.

Mr. Skinner—I would like to know when the road from Victoria to Esquimalt will be improved, as nothing has been done.

Mr. Pemberton—Six hundred pounds has been appropriated for that purpose; but I have no control over the money. A very little has been done, owing to not having the funds at my command.

Mr. Skinner—I think that the condition of Mill Creek bridge, Esquimalt, should be improved, as it was very dangerous.

Mr. Pemberton—I think that the proprietors of lands in the neighborhood should appropriate something for the purpose; and that the land fund should not pay for every thing relating to old roads.

Hon. Speaker—I will inquire into the matter, and inform the House.

The House resolved into Committee of the Whole. Mr. Skinner in the chair.

Hon. Speaker—I move the first reading of "Bill of Supply."

Passed.

Hon. Speaker—I move that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into improvements of Victoria harbour; also, empowered to call to their assistance engineers; and also to report on the practicability of a canal at Portage Inlet to connect Esquimalt with Victoria.

It was seconded by Mr. McKay, and after some little discussion passed.

Mr. Pemberton—I move that a bill be brought in to incorporate the Victoria Navigation Company. The object of the Company is to navigate the waters of Vancouver's Island, Puget Sound and British Columbia.

Passed.

The Committee rose and reported to the House.

Hon. Speaker—Does the House adopt the report of Committee?

Adopted.

Messrs. Pemberton, Yates, and McKay were appointed a Committee on Harbour improvements, etc.

Mr. Pemberton—I give notice of a bill entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Victoria Navigation Company."

Mr. McKay—I move that the second reading of the Registration Bill be postponed a fortnight.

Seconded and passed.

The House adjourned to meet this day fortnight.

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